THE COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE,

AND EL PASO COUNTY NEWS.

Official Paper of the Town of Colorado Springs.

Official Paper of El Paso County.

JANUARY 17, 1874.

THE LOCAL PAPER.—You owe it to yourselves to pay liberally to its support, and exact from it as elevated and toned a character as you would do from any educator in your midst. It is in no sense benevolent notice and care for it is your representative. Indeed, in its character, it is the summation of the importance, interest and wealth of you all. It is the aggregate of your own consequence, and you cannot ignore it without miserably depreciating yourselves.—*New York Times.*

We presume that no doubt remains as to the sentiment in El Paso County relative to the State Question. Pursuant to the notice which was given in last week's GAZETTE, a meeting of the voters of El Paso County was held in the Reading Room on Monday Evening, when the issue was discussed at considerable length, and in a most unanimous vote was given against admission. The meeting was open to all, it was largely attended, and the expression of opinion was unhesitating. A few over zealous politicians, however, dissatisfied with the result, called another meeting for Wednesday Evening, and worked diligently to obtain a contrary vote. They drummed up a corps of supporters to back them up, they brought forth all the arguments which their ingenuity could invent, they proposed a long string of wordy resolutions; but, when the vote was taken, they found themselves hopelessly beaten, and the resolutions adopted at Monday night's meeting were again adopted by an overwhelming majority. These resolutions will be found, in full, in another column.

Among the considerations which have decided our people against State-hood at the present time there are two which have a special force.

First, that of Taxation. It is undeniable that a State Government would entail upon us heavy expenditures from which we are now free—how heavy, no one can tell. Two or three years hence, when our population has largely increased, (as it undoubtedly will) have done by that time, the burden may be borne; but now, when our population is below that which is constitutionally required for admission, the Territory may well ask whether there are any advantages in State-hood which are worth the price. Would the gain be so great that it is worth while for us to pay twice as much for it now as we should have to do in, say, a couple of years? Looking over the whole question, the people of El Paso County conclude that it would not. Under the present order of things, the Territory can point with pride to its prosperity—to its increasing population, to the growing development of its resources, to the general prevalence of law and order within its borders, to the balance in its treasury; and it is not easy to see that its elevation to State-hood would mend matters in the former particulars sufficiently to compensate for the change, which it would inevitably and rapidly bring about in the last particular. Heavy taxation and heavy debt—these seem to be the most certain concomitants of State-hood, and it would be folly for a Territory, with a population unequal to the Constitutional requirement, to put its shoulders under the crushing weight, simply for the sake of being able to say that it claims one star on the national flag.

The second consideration which has special force with our people, has been the risk of Official Corruption. Of late years, to be a public official and to be a defrauder of the public, seem to have been almost one and the same thing. The "Servants" of the people all over have regarded themselves as chartered to rob the people, and "steals" of all kinds, big and little, have been the order of the day. No wonder, then, that they hesitate to give their support to a movement which, if successful, would result in the immediate creation of a host of offices. The very object, indeed, of those who are pulling the wires in this State Movement is the creation of offices, which they hope to fill. There is good reason to believe that the Nation is about to see a better state of things in "high places." So long as Tweed remains in prison, corrupt officials have a warning spectacle before them which is not likely to go unheeded, and the people have encouragement to demand something like purity and honesty on the part of public servants. Voters are no longer submitting themselves to the [illegible] of "Party," which has so often [illegible] the ends of [illegible] politicians; they are assuming and asserting that independence of thought and action which is their right, and good is coming of it all. In a year or two more, it is probable that honest men in public positions will be the rule and not the exception. For those better days we in Colorado can afford to wait.

We hope that the action of our own County on this State Question will be followed up by every County in the Territory. Petitions in favor of State-hood are being circulated, and every effort is being made to get the people of the Territory to help knocking at the doors of Congress; but all through the Territory there are numbers of men—men who expect and who want no office—who are, heart and soul, opposed to the movement. Let them speak out.

A Tax-payer, whose communication will be found below, gives expression to a feeling, (which prevails considerably in the Town,) of dissatisfaction with the amount of Taxation which is being levied, and claims that, to save misunderstanding and needless discontent, the authorities should arise to explain.

We may say here, for the sake of general information, that the only Financial Report which the Trustees are required by the Statutes to make, is an annual one, and that is to be a full statement of Receipts and Expenditures, and to be published at least ten days previous to the Annual Election.

The Authorities, therefore, are under no obligation to make such explanation as Taxpayer asks for; but we have gathered a few facts from the Treasurer which may probably satisfy reasonable people:

The Town was incorporated in September, 1872, and for the first year of its existence no Tax was levied, the present tax, therefore, is a two years' tax.

The only, or almost the only income for the first year of the Town's existence was derived from licenses, the payment for which amounted to $8[illegible]. This year, the payment for licenses will [illegible] $1,[illegible]. The Tax which has been levied will probably yield $7,0[illegible]—less rather than more. This gives a total income of $8,850 for the two years, from September, 1872, to September, 1874, when the next Tax may be laid. Should the ordinances be strictly enforced, as we hope they will, then there will undoubtedly be a revenue from penalties; but that, at present, must be put down as an unknown quantity.

Eight or nine thousand dollars is certainly not a very extravagant sum for two years' administration of the Town affairs, if we take into account what has to be provided. We have, to begin with, a Town Constable and a Night Watchman, whose joint salaries amount to about $1,700 a year. Next, there is the interest on $15,000 worth of School bonds (part of them already negotiated, and the whole, it is to be hoped, to be negotiated before long). There are officers' salaries and fees—Trustees, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Fire Warden, Assessor, and so forth. There are Board of Health expenditures; one case of small-pox alone cost the Town about $500, we believe, last Summer, and five times the amount would have been well expended, if it had proved necessary in order to prevent a spread of the epidemic. There is printing, advertising, and stationery. There has been a contribution towards a Fire Engine, and, if funds should be available, it is proposed to construct cisterns at convenient points as a further protection from fire. And thus we might go on.

We are not prepared to say that every cent which has been expended during the past fifteen months has been paid out in the very best possible manner. A considerable sum, for instance, has been paid to a Town Herder to take care of people's cattle, so that they might not roam about the town and break the pound law; the proper course, in our opinion, would have been to make the people take care of their own cattle. In other matters, there may possibly have been expenditure which could have been avoided; but we are doubtful whether any other Board of Trustees which could be chosen in the town would have done better, on the whole, in financial matters, than our present Board and the one which preceded it.

Mr. Seybold, observer in charge of the Station on the Summit of Pike's Peak, favored us with a call the other day. He reported that the cold had been so intense some mornings that it was unsafe to venture out of the building.

THE STATE QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

DEAR SIR:—Through the medium of the COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE I desire to inform the citizens of El Paso County who were present at the Anti-State meeting of the 12th inst., that I have duly forwarded a copy of the Resolutions passed at said meeting, to the following gentlemen: Hon. Geo. [illegible] Chilcott, Hon. Jos. C. Wilson, and Hon. Wm. Moore. Yours truly,

M. L. DeCOURSEY.

HOW ABOUT THE TAXES?

To the Editor of the Gazette:

SIR:—I have observed for some time that there is considerable ill-feeling among our Tax-payers, caused by the supposed enormity of the Town Taxes.

I cannot persuade myself to believe that there is a "nigger in the fence," or a Tweed Ring in this Town, from the simple fact that all of our Town officials are, in my opinion, honest men; but these rumors and suspicions which are afloat, are certainly increasing, if not unjust, towards our Town authorities.

Now, all of this can be removed by the officials themselves, by an official report from the Town Clerk and Treasurer.

As Chapters 1 and 2 of the Town Ordinances, relating to the duties of officers, &c., were not published (and, therefore, there arises a question as to their legality) the people are not aware what are the duties of the authorities in this respect.

As I have interests at stake in this Town, I am desirous to have its good reputation preserved, and by giving these few words, which are well meant, a place in your next issue, you will oblige a

TAXPAYER.

WHY THIRD-CLASS?

To the Editor of the Gazette:

SIR:—Can you explain why the Public School Teachers of this County can only obtain certificates of the third or lowest grade, although many of them have held positions in the best schools in the States? Does our County Superintendent give certificates according to the amount of the salary that the teachers receive, (for surely they are paid a third-grade salary,) or is this mode of a teacher so near perfection that none of our Pedagogues can aspire to attain thereto? I make the inquiry because I think that the report which appeared in your last issue, stating that at the last examination, only two certificates of the second grade were granted, while about a dozen of the third grade were given, will, when published to the world through your widely-circulated paper, tend to work harm to this place; for, I am sure that I would never choose to locate in a place where third-rate teachers alone have charge of the schools. Would it not be well for some competent person to make a visit to our several schools, and publish a report of his observations, in order that the public at large may gain a correct idea of what this Town is doing in the matter of education. Respectfully,

INQUIRER.

The Second Social Hop of the Sans Souci Club came off last evening, and was a very pleasant affair.

Mr. [illegible] N. Carlile, who was formerly well known in Town, as a member of the firm of Moore & Carlile, favored us with a call on Thursday last.

We are informed that two gentlemen belonging to Milwaukee, Wis., propose to establish a Tannery in Colorado Springs. We have little doubt of the success of such an enterprise.

Mr. Alva Adams, of the firm of Adams, Wilson & Co., has left for Del Norte, where he proposes to remain for some time, to look after the interests of their branch house there.

Messrs. Donavan and Carter's brick buildings, next to the store occupied by the El Paso County News Company, are rapidly approaching completion.

We have been requested to call attention to the dangerous practice, which is coming into vogue, of [illegible] upon the Bridges in the neighborhood. Several horses have been frightened already, and some serious accidents will probably result, unless the practice is discontinued.

Mr. Nat. Wilson, Mr. A. V. Hunter, and Mr. Mitchel, got back to Colorado Springs on Wednesday, after an absence of over two months in the San Juan Country. They confirm all the previous accounts which have been given of its marvelous richness.

The El Paso Cornet Band is to make a new start. Several more members have been obtained, and it is expected that the Company will now be able to [illegible] and keep up regular practices.

We regret to hear that Mr. Charles Bardeen, whose departure for Wisconsin we noticed a few weeks ago, is suffering from Asthma. He has doubtless come to the conclusion by this time that it would have been better for him to have remained in Colorado.

People who turn their backs on Colorado Springs are liable to find that "they may go farther, and fare worse." Some weeks ago, a man who had a lot of horses for sale was offered sixty dollars a head for twenty-one of them in Colorado Springs. He refused, took [illegible], and sold them for fifty dollars a head.

A Pocket Calendar for 1874 will be given to every subscriber to the GAZETTE, who cares to apply at the office for it.

Mr. John Shaw has opened a Blacksmith and Wagon Shop at the foot of Huerfano Street, near to the Monument Bridge.

The card of Messrs. Davidson & Harrison, Attorneys-at-law, will be found in another column. Both gentlemen are so well known, that no words of recommendation from us are needed.

It doesn't take long to get over a fence—especially when that fence is the State Question. We saw a man on one side of it on Monday, and on the other side on Wednesday night. To be sure, he is a man who has plenty of what the [illegible] call "[illegible]nimbility."

The Pueblo *People* says that in everything, except the Springs, Pueblo is a more favorable place for invalids than our own Town is. Unfortunately for Pueblo, the invalids who have tried both places are not of the same opinion as the *People.*

Who was the "getter-upper" of Wednesday night's meeting? The getter-up of the Big Speech says that *he* wasn't, and every other man who has been credited with the honor, has declined it. Now, who was the getter-upper?

The GAZETTE has been designated the official newspaper of El Paso County. All County and Court Notices will therefore appear in its columns.

The Certificate of Incorporation of the Corbin Ditch Company has been filed with the County Clerk. The capital stock of the Company is one thousand dollars, in shares of fifty dollars each. The Ditch will be built from Dry Creek, and will irrigate land on the West side of the Fountain.

It was a sight to see when the Party carried the Flag to victory on Wednesday night. There was the *Party*—Judge Price, and Z. C. [illegible], and Dr. R. [illegible] Taylor, and about a dozen more. And there was the *Flag*—that precious string of Resolutions about the wealth of our metallic mountains and the virtues of Ex-Governor [illegible]. And there was *Victory*—the North side of the Reading-room.

The Certificate of Incorporation of the Monument Ditch Company was filed with the County Clerk last Monday. The Company has been organized for the purpose of building a ditch to supply the Town of Monument with water. The capital stock is [illegible] thousand dollars, in [illegible] shares of fifty dollars each. The Ditch will run from Monument Creek, near the base of the mountains, to the Town of Monument.

The lower portion of the County is earnestly desirous to secede and become a separate County, to be known as [illegible] County, with Fountain as the County Seat. Wouldn't this thing better go all round? The Northern portion, for instance, might become "Monument County," with Monument for its County Seat. The Eastern part could be "[illegible] County," with Crow's Roost for its County Seat; and on the Westside could have Castle-ton County, with Colorado City once more a [illegible] Seat. Such an arrangement as this would surely give satisfaction to every place and portion.

The organization of "Unity Church" was completed at a meeting held for that purpose in the Reading Room on Friday evening of last week. A Board of seven Trustees was chosen, also a Benevolent Committee of nine persons, and a Music Committee of three. Mrs. Wilkes was chosen as Pastor. The following is the bond of Union adopted by the Society: "We believe in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. We associate ourselves as a Christian Church to aid each other in endeavoring to attain unto the perfect life as lived by Jesus of Nazareth, and to give the world a knowledge of our faith in God's impartial love. Believing Christianity to be a life, not a dogma, we invite all to unite with us who desire to hasten the time when God's will shall be done on earth as it is done in Heaven."

We are in receipt from England of a letter, which contains some particulars of interest relative to the late Mr. R. E. Neave, who was burned to death at his residence in West Mountain Valley a few weeks ago. Mr. Neave, as most of our readers know, was an Englishman. He was the son of the late Sir Digby Neave, Baronet, and brother of the present Baronet, Sir Arundel Neave; as such, he was heir to the [illegible] estates, which are worth about $100,000 a year. It is a remarkable fact that, of the five sons of Sir Digby Neave, four have come to violent deaths, one having been killed by a tiger, another by a bear, another having fallen in the Indian mutiny, and the victim of the murderer in West Mountain Valley made the fourth. Mr. Neave came to Colorado in 1871, to carve out a fortune, irrespective of his "expectations;" he was unwilling to live an existence dependent upon his brother. During his residence in the Valley, he and his partner, Dr. Bell, expended about $40,000 there, and were instrumental, last winter, in saving a large portion of the population of the Valley from almost inevitable starvation. He was generous, almost to a fault—[illegible] and open-hearted. [illegible] to make a success of his business there, his death was, of course, caused the deepest distress to his family, who were expecting him home for a visit. We can only hope [illegible] of [illegible] ere long, [illegible] has not been [illegible] the [illegible] of his estate.

The Notarial Bonds of Mr. T. C. Parrish and Mr. Geo. L. DeCoursey have been filed with the County Clerk.

We are pleased to report that Mr. W. T. Holt will shortly build himself a residence in Town.

Messrs. Cole & [illegible] have begun work on a two-story building immediately West of the People's Bank, on Huerfano Street.

"Table Rock" is the name of a new Post Office which has just been established in the County. It is situated between here and Gomer's Mill.

We are informed that on and after the first of February, Mr. James Sweeney, a member of the San Juan Stage Company, will run a line of six-horse Concord Coaches between Colorado Springs and Manitou.

Thursday's *Mail* reported that Mr. Wilson had presented a petition to the House, in favor of a division of El Paso County. Yesterday's *Mail* contained a correction; the petition was *against* division.

The Wilson Coal Company are pushing work energetically, having men at work day and night. They have constructed a [illegible] at the shaft, and expect to be able to furnish a supply of Coal in a very short time.

An Irishman, who paid a visit to some of our County officials the other day, was questioned as to his nationality, when he replied that he was one half Irish, one-half French, one-half German, and one-half something else, he didn't quite know what. And then he asked them what they were laughing at.

We had a short interview with Bishop Machebeuf, of the Catholic Church, on Tuesday last. He informed us that he had secured a lot and proposed to build a Church in Colorado Springs without delay. He is energetically engaged in procuring subscriptions for the same.

We think that some of our citizens are a little hard on Judge Price. Wednesday, they were quite willing to follow him to victory; Thursday morning, they went round proclaiming that "Judge Price was sure to kill anything that he took hold of." Surely, they might be a little more generous and pity the sorrows of a poor old man.

D. A. Cowell has begun the erection of two brick buildings, on his lot, corner of Tejon Street and Pike's Peak Avenue. We understand that they are to be appropriated for a Barber's Shop and Bath House. Mr. Cowell is a brave man, as the lot in question is the one which the Colorado Springs Company brought suit to recover, and which was declared forfeit by the Jury. It can be [illegible] a few months before the action is retried.

A meeting of the Town Trustees was held last Saturday evening, and adjourned, for lack of a quorum, until Tuesday evening. At the adjourned meeting, a full board was present. In accordance with a petition presented, a Fire Limit was established, particulars of which will be found in the Ordinance published in our advertising columns. Several taxes were abated, and a number of bills were passed and ordered to be paid.

Mr. Wilson has introduced a bill into the House, entitled "An Act to amend chapter 7 of the Revised Statutes of Colorado Territory," entitled "Attorneys-at-Law." The bill provides that Attorneys-at-Law regularly admitted as such in any Court of Record in the United States, and producing evidence of the fact, shall be licensed by the Supreme Court, without further examination, to practice in all the Courts of the Territory. Applications for license may be made to the Judges in vacation, as well as when the Supreme Court is in session.

We see that our Representative the Hon. J. C. Wilson, has been appointed Chairman of the Timber Committee, one of the Special Committees formed to take action on matters suggested in the Governor's Message. The subject of the preservation of such timber as we now have and the encouragement of Forest culture in order that the quantity may be largely increased, is one of great importance, and will, we trust, receive the earnest and careful attention of our Representative.

The first regular meeting of the members of the Pioneer Building and Loan Association took place in Justice Lyon's office on Tuesday evening last, when a Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, and officers elected for the coming year. The following gentlemen were chosen: President, R. C. Lyon; Vice-President, C. W. Barton; Secretary, W. D. Gaby; Treasurer, [illegible] M. Somerville; Attorney, [illegible] M. Hollingsworth. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday next, when the first payments on the Shares will be made. The Association has the prospect of a very successful course.

We had the pleasure of a call yesterday from Dr. [illegible] Marix, of Denver, who has come down to Colorado Springs to make some investigations relative to the climatology of the neighborhood. Dr. Marix is Chairman of the Committee on Climatology of the American Institute of Homoeopathy, a Committee which has been appointed by the Institute for the purpose of collecting observations on climate in all parts of the United States. These observations, when completed, will be published to the world, and will doubtless do much [illegible] determining invalids where to go. We are, of course, confident that Colorado Springs will lose nothing by comparison with other localities.

Mr. W. Chase has been spending the week in Denver.

We have had more fog and frost this week than we remember since we have been in the Territory.

We hear that several weddings are to come off before long. The more the merrier.

Work is being pushed forward on the new Hotel at Manitou, several carpenters being busily engaged. The proprietor intends to have it ready in good time for Summer visitors.

The Manitou House keeps up a fair complement of guests, fresh arrivals being registered nearly every day. The Billiard Hall and Bowling Alley are now in full operation, and add considerably to the attractiveness of the Hotel.

The Hon. J. C. Wilson came down from Denver on Saturday last, remaining until Monday noon. During his visit, he had a conference with the leading citizens on several matters of importance to the Town and County.

A Company designated as "The Cheyenne [illegible] Company," was formed on Monday last for the purpose of building a [illegible] up Cheyenne Cañon and the Creeks of Cheyenne and its tributaries, and a Wagon Road to the Falls in the South Cañon. The capital stock is $500 in ten shares of $50 each.

The liquor-men are in favor of the State movement. They say that, if the Territory were made a State, they could elect Rum Judges, and get a different ruling about the Forfeiture Clause than that which Judge Hallett gave. We have no doubt that they would do their best, but they will have to wait awhile.

The Freight Traffic on the D. & R. G. Railway is steadily on the increase. We may take it, therefore, that Business generally is steadily improving. We have now, without doubt, got over the tightest pinch of the panic. For all that, however, *money* is fearfully tight.

The Central *Register* says that some of the paths in that neighborhood are so zig-zag that you may stand with one foot on zig and the other on zag without any difficulty. Here, in Colorado Springs, the paths are straight enough, yet we have seen a few men with one foot on zig, and the other zag, and even then they didn't get along very grandly.

A special edition of five thousand copies of the GAZETTE was printed last Tuesday. This edition contained Dr. [illegible]'s letter on Colorado, the Review of 1873, and other interesting matter, which appeared in our last issue. It will be circulated over all parts of the Union, and will, without doubt, result in bringing us many Visitors and Residents.

Several small robberies are being committed in the Town. Mrs. Glitner has lost a pair of Boots from the front of her store; Mr. [illegible] Eldridge has had a quantity of tobacco and a box of cigars taken from his establishment, and we have heard of several other petty thefts. We hope that our Constable will give these matters his attention. There are a number of loiterers round Town who need looking after.

A few items from the Greeley *Tribune*, which we would have our readers ponder that they may see whether they can find any instruction therein:

One of our leading citizens offers to unite with five or ten, to give $100, or $500, or $1,000, if necessary, to fight any liquor power that may attempt to get a footing in Greeley.—One thousand two hundred and fifty of the ladies of Janesville, Wisconsin, signed a petition in one day to suppress grog shops.—In Ohio, New York, Indiana, Kentucky, and other States, the churches are uniting to suppress the sale of liquor. They think it their particular business to attend to this business.—It was estimated by Commissioner Wells, about the year 1867, that the whisky trade cost this nation in its ultimate consumption $2,[illegible]00,000,000, for which there is absolutely no equivalent, given except in medicine. The products of this nation in corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes, and hay, are now estimated at $1,[illegible]80,000,000, or $[illegible]00,000,000 less than we expend in intoxicating liquors.—Five hundred thousand dollars, in round numbers, Protestants of this country contribute annually to the Bible cause. The annual sales of intoxicating liquors, according to Commissioner Wells, amount to $1,500,000,000. How about "educating public sentiment" in this way? Would it not be as well for Christians to put their votes to some use.—Those who expect to bring about anything like universal education while there are at least a dozen *grog shops* to every reading-room and school in the country, will ever be unsuccessful. The rum traffic is the deadliest foe of education. There are 500,000 more men engaged in the liquor traffic than in teaching the youth.—A new temperance movement opened in Springfield, Ohio, after Christmas. A large number of the principal and most influential ladies of the city visited the various drug stores and liquor saloons, holding seasons of prayer, interspersed with singing, until the sale of liquor has entirely ceased. Wherever a saloon-keeper or druggist surrendered to this new style of attack, the bells in the churches rang forth peals, and in some cases the liquor was brought out into the streets and destroyed, the barrels and kegs being broken up with axes. During the time the ladies were thus engaged, the men were holding protracted prayer-meetings in the churches. [illegible] the State is preparing to [illegible] the same measures and [illegible] [illegible].